MAINE FARMER,
AND JOURNAL OF THE ARTS.

"Our Home, Our Country, and Our Brother Man."

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THE FARMER.

E. HOLMES, Editor.

PUT IN THE WHEAT AND THE BARLEY.

The time for sowing spring wheat is at hand; and the question with our farmers throughout the Western half of the State is, shall we sow early or late or not at all? If we sow early the weevil is upon us. If we sow late the rust is upon us, and in either case we are in danger of losing our crop. We acknowledge that both scourges have visited the farmer of late, and made it oftentimes a losing business. But still let us not be discouraged. We should exert ourselves in the best way we can—bring all the skill and judgment that we possess to bear upon the question, and sow in hope trusting the event to Divine Providence.

We think that those who can, should sow a field early and another field late, and also put in a liberal crop of Barley. This will give three chances for a crop of Breadstuffs, and it must be a very calamitous year indeed, if neither of them succeeds. We hope that our farmers will not be discouraged entirely because of the ravages of the grain worm, nor because rust and mildew sometimes destroy their labors, nor because the prices have fallen in the market. These are among the changes and vicissitudes which attend every occupation and pursuit. The farmer should be the last one to give up; for if he fails we all fail. It is indeed a great calamity that when the whole State had become aroused upon the subject of growing our own breadstuffs, and the pernicious and foolish opinion that we could not do it was floating away before the light of experience and industry—the fair hopes and prospects of the people should be destroyed by an insignificant worm. Let us not yield the field yet to him. Give him battle and by redoubling our diligence, by sowing twice or thrice more than we ever did, and at different times, it is very possible that we may yet carry the day and find ourselves again rejoicing in full garners. As yet this insect has made but little devastation among our barley, and it is probable that he never can do it much harm. If, then, we turn our attention more to this grain and succeed, there will be no danger of starving. It has hitherto proved a sure and a profitable crop, and we hope that every farmer will give it a fair trial during the coming season.

PATENTED INVENTIONS DURING THE PAST YEAR, (1839.)—We see by the report of the Commissioner of Patents that notwithstanding the "*hard times*," the ingenuity of our citizens is still at work, and affords plenty of business for those connected with the Patent Office at Washington. Four hundred and twenty-five patents have been issued during the year, bringing the amount of receipts into that department up to thirty-seven thousand two hundred and sixty dollars.

The Commissioner states that eleven thousand five hundred and nine patents have been issued by the U. States previous to the year 1840.

What a host of inventions! What enormous speculations have been made—in fancy at least—what a wondrous working of the bumps of constructiveness! What bright visions of wealth, of grandeur and immortality have danced before the fancy of many a poor wight who has spent his time and his labor, and it may be his all, in bringing into successful operation the child of his brain. These inventions share the fate of mankind in general. Some are "*cracked up*" by their friends, and the whole world set "agog" after them, and fortunes realized from them, when the whole turns out to be a splendid humbug. Others are "*no go*" any way you can fix them, either because they have no real merit of their own to recommend them, or the public are too stupid to see then wherein their merit actually consists. Others, of real intrinsic use and value, are nevertheless consigned to oblivion, because they have no one to *push* them forward and to open the eyes of the sleepy multitude by the various twitchings of the cue or *adcaptandum* arguments which the dear people love to listen to, and a few, a very few are really and intrinsically useful, and of great benefit to the public, and finally work their way into favor by their sterling and unquestionable worth.

The good people of Maine, hitherto not behind their brethren in the exercise of their inventive faculties, seem to be resting from their labors. Only eleven of the last year's "batch" hail from this state, viz:

Hand Loom for weaving fringes, by Eliza Ann B. Judkins of Portland Maine. Think of that, Mechanics—the Ladies are getting among you; brighten up. Moulding Reaction Water Wheel preparatory to casting, by Stephen Parsons, Edgecomb. Hay Press, by Charles W. Hawkes, Brunswick. Endless Chain Horse Power, by Moses Davenport, Phillips. Manual Power for driving Machinery by Drafts, Ammi West, Greene. Vertical Shafts and Spindles preventing motion, &c. by Stephen Parsons, Edgecomb. Circular Saws preparing blocks for matches, by Jonathan Morgan, Portland. Making and baking biscuits and crackers, by Benj F. Mason, Kennebunk Port. Washing Machine, by J. Leavitt, A. Gilman and Wm. Sturtevant, Turner. Fire Arms, L. Bailey, J. B. Ripley, and Wm. B. Smith, Portland. Taylor's draughting instruments, Wm. M. Wiswell, Portland.

GOOD BYE TO WINTER.

Our winter has been a very mild and broken one. The month of January was cold and the sleighing good, but February and March seem to have forgotten themselves, for they have been uncommonly mild. Last Monday we had a powerful rain. The Kennebec is free of ice—the frost is nearly out of the ground, and unless old Boreas takes a back track by and by to *review* his work we shall have an early spring.

AMERICAN SWINE BREEDER.

A very interesting work with the above title has been published by Messrs. Jordan & Co. Boston from the pen of H. W. Ellsworth.

Hitherto almost every animal which the farmer has found it an object to rear, has been written upon, and treatise after treatise published, giving a minute history and particular rules and regulations for its management, so as to ensure profit to its owner. But the Hog—the poor Hog has found but few to do him reverence, although there is not a farmer among the whole stock of "Gentiles" but has more or less to do with him, and would think starvation was near neighbor to him if he had not a goodly stock of the animal, in his pork barrel. We are glad therefore that this useful animal has found so able a friend and advocate as Mr. Ellsworth proves himself to be. The work is a 16mo. of 304 pages, and containa the greatest collection of valuable matter that we know in one work. A portrait of the Berkshire, or what should be considered the improved Berkshire (for the old fashioned Berkshires were no more like the present than a Donkey is like a War Horse.) A portrait of the improved Chinese—several cuts and plans of piggeries, of different kinds, & is dedicated to Elias Phinney Esq. who has become so celebrated for his fine Hogs that he willhave to emblazon a Hog *couchant* upon his coat of arms. The first chapter describes the different breeds of swine; second chapter rules &c. for breeding; third chapter treatment, and plans for piggeries; fourth, advantages of different kinds of food, such as cooked and raw, fermented &c.; the fifth chapter, treatment of young pigs—modes of fattening &c.; sixth chapter, different modes pursued by various individuals in regard to their manner of managing, breeding &c. It is an exceedingly valuable and interesting work for the Farmer, and we hope every one who feels himself able will purchase a copy of it.

One single extract from the work is all that we can now give our readers.

Considering his extraordinary fecundity and adaptation to all climates, the ease and cheapness with which he is reared (thriving almost equally well on animal and vegetable food) and the facility with which he is conveyed from one place to another, it is indeed surprising that so little is known in this country of his history and habits, and such slight attention paid to the improvement of so valuable an animal as the Domestic Hog. To a great extent, among many of our farmers, has the hog been considered as a subordinate species of live stock—a mere consumer of the refuse of the kitchen, whose presence must be tolerated as a necessary evil. The vast improvement to be effected by the importation of new varieties, or judicious crosses among those easily procured, seems to have almost culpably escaped the attention of those with whom the improvement of all other kinds of stock has been a subject of intense and constant reflection. Natural History abounds with singularly minute details of the habits of many rare, and in an agricultural point of view, apparently useless animals. Volumes have been written on the breeds, the treatment and diseases of sheep. Treatise after treatise on cattle has been multiplied, exhibiting in detail the change effected by judicious and continued crossings, to so great an extent that the distinguishing characteristics of the parent stock are scarcely to be recognised in their descendants while, with perhaps a solitary exception,* little has been offered to the public, calculated to furnish practical information in regard to swine. It is true that now and then we find articles discussing different points connected with these neglected animals, scattered amid the pages of our valuable agricultural periodicals. It is also true, if enjoying free access to books and sufficient leisure, that we can, as the result of prolonged investigations, gather at one time much of interest, regarding the origin and habits of swine as the subjects of Natural History; at another many facts calculated to aid or govern our estimate of the comparative value of improved varieties; and again, sound practical directions as to the best mode of treatment to secure the utmost limit of perfection. But the attainment of knowledge by a process involving such expenditures of time and research, is impracticable to the many, and sufficiently irksome to the few whose situation authorizes and whose wishes lead them to attempt it, to excite a deep regret, that instead of scattered truths, and disconnected facts, though important in themselves, no plain, practical, and connected treatise on a subject so important can be found.

Frequent importations and repeated crossings on them, have produced within the last few years numerous breeds of swine in this country, of which perhaps the most important and most generally known are as follows:—

1. *The Berkshire hog.*
2. *The original and improved China.*
3. *The Bedford or Woburn hog.*
4. *The Mackay hog.*
5. *The Russian hog.*
6. *The Leicester hog.*
7. *The Irish grazier hog.*
8. *The Byfield hog.*
9. *The Moco hog.*
10. *The grass breed hog.* To which more recent importations have added,
11. *The Beltz hog.*
12. *The Neapolitan hog.*

Independent of these will be found many varieties, whose reputation is confined to less extended limits, the descendants of some of the above breeds intermingled with the ordinary ones of the country.

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* Henderson on Swine.

Original.

TRANSPLANTING TREES.

Mr Holmes:—As the time for transplanting fruit and ornamental trees is near at hand, I have a few words to say on that subject although enough has been already written to correct any improper course that might be taken. I am frequently pained in travelling over different parts of our State to see so much labor thrown away in transplanting. Much however has been improperly written. I recollect of reading an article not long since from a popular writer of the day who declared that not a branch should be cut from the tree when transplanted, while another writer would have the tree cut off, branches and all, with only a stump left to show that a tree once stood there. Now, sir, I have learned a little from experience and much from a line in old Will Shakespeare, which says, that

Modest doubt is called
The beacon of the wise.

In removing ornamental trees, too much care cannot be taken to preserve the roots from injury. There is usually one large root to a tree, if this be not preserved, it is with difficulty that the tree can be made to live. I remember living in a village where the young men undertook to ornament the place with a row of elms. We all started for the woods together, selected our trees, dug a little hole round each, chopped off the larger roots and carried the trees to their new home. The consequence was, not one in twenty survived.

If care be taken to protect the large roots, but little injury will occur to the smaller ones. I have usually adopted this principle, to cut off the top in proportion to the loss which the roots sustained.

No limb should be cut off close to the tree when first transplanted not even such as injure its appearance. For in proportion as the branches are cut next to the tree, so in proportion is the circulation impeded and that part of the tree which needs it the most has the greatest difficulty in obtaining it. This is a very common and a very great error. Instead of this, I lop off the extremities of all the larger branches, so that there is no impediment to the free circulation of sap. By this means new shoots will spring out which will form a handsome top in a short time. I have frequently seen the same injudicious treatment practised on fruit trees.

Farmers sometimes wish to raise an orchard on a piece of land naturally unfitted for it. One examp'e will illustrate. A neighbor of mine had a piece of clayey land on which he wished to raise some fruit trees. Being a man remarkable for neatness and good taste, he had taken great pains to make his land as level as possible. He planted his trees and they all died except a few near a stone wall. Having tried this course for several years with no success and being discouraged at the thoughts of raising an orchard, he one day related to me the course he had taken. I advised him to throw his land in ridges and plant his trees on them. To convince him of this I showed him the ridge of land he had unconsciously made against his wall and the beautiful trees growing there. But he attributed this to some virtue in the rocks themselves. He, however, followed my advice and now has a beautiful young orchard.

Hoping these hints may benefit the public I subscribe myself Agricola.

Original.

LOW PRICE OF WOOD.

Mr. Holmes:—Having been for some time past a reader of your paper, and believing from its general tenor that you feel a deep interest in the prosperity and advancement of the yeomanry in this community, I trust you would be willing to hear a word in their favor although from the feeblest source. The subject to which I would call the attention of all farmers concerned is the price for which they sell wood. Now I would inquire, is the miserable pittance for which wood is bought and sold in Winthrop any thing like a fair and reasonable compensation, when compared with the price of other consumable articles? Why should not the farmer receive pay for his labor as well as the mechanic? Why is it that wood is not worth as much here as at Hallowell or Augusta? Is there such a superabundance of wood in Winthrop that we are afraid we shall have to burn it on the ground to get rid of it? No—there has been a decrease in the article almost from time immemorial. Must, then, the producers of this commodity continue to be oppressed by the avarice of those who may with truth be called their dependents? It need not be so—the staff is in their own hands—and will they not use it? I am slow to believe that there are but few if any among us who are driven from dire necessity to this course. I would not wish to recommend combinations to oppress and injure my neighbor. but I would recommend *such* combination and decision on the part of farmers as shall secure to them that *equalty and justice* which reason, humanity, and the common sonse of every man shall dictate. Will not our farmers think a little upon this subject, and see if any thing can be done to their advantage in this respect.

W.

Winthrop, March 31, 1840.

Original.

THE GARGET.

Mr. Holmes:—I perceive in the last Farmer some one over the signature of J. W. takes some exceptions to my remarks in a former No. wherein he makes mention by way of complaint, that I make him the author of the notion, that Tar applied to the noses of Cattle, subject to the Garget at certain seasons, was a preventive.

Now if the gentleman will but notice my communication again, he will see at once that I merely named *some one* advised Tar, &c. But the gentleman misapprehends me, when he speaks of my doubting or denying the existence of the disorder in neat cattle called garget, and that with the same breath, I urge the adoption of a preventive, which is, in the more frequent milking.

I observed then, as I now repeat, that no such disease exists *as is generally understood*, or in other words, (for I am feeble at language,) that it is attributed to other causes than the true one. The popular notions are, that the Garget may be produced by the baleful influences of the seasons, over which man has no control—impurities in the blood, poor keep, or a disordered system, from operating unknown causes; and that it is a disease to which all neat cattle are *equally* subject.

The gentleman further enquires of me, "if disorders do not always arise from a cause?" Aye—"and the sovereign'st thing on earth is Parmicity for an inward bruise." Peradventure I am replying to a lady, (if so she will excuse my humor,) for it is a subject in which they as well as we should, and doubtless do, take a deep interest, especially all those engaged in the dairy. But I protest against these initial signatures, for I can see no good reason for adopting them, and many may be urged for a discontinuance of the practice. But to be serious, I hold it to be a fact, not to be controverted by reason or science, that the disease called garget to which most cattle are subject, is *exclusively confined to milch cows*, and almost wholly to the best ones—that it is caused by obstructed circulation from the pressure of milk upon the internal coats of their bags—whence arise swellings, tumors, &c. with all the concurrent symptoms of inflammation—and that the injury is invariably in proportion to the degree of pressure and obstruction of the circulation—that there is one remedy and one only, which is in milking the cows three times per day through the flush season of feed, and at all times this is the true safety valve, when they are on the high pressure principle. I do not wish to be understood, that, were this practice adopted and frigidly adhered to, there never would a case of the garget occur, but that they would be "few and far between."

I was forcibly struck with the following in a late Farmer as applicable to this region, and to the case in question:—"One of the greatest disadvantages, that falls to the lot of all newly settled countries, is the slow progress of science—the time of the inhabitants is too much occupied by matters of more pressing urgency, to admit of any portions being devoted to study—the natural consequence of this among cattle breeders is, that they possess no fixed principles to guide them in distinguishing the disease, or in applying the proper remedy—the ignorance that is every where manifested on this subject is truly deplorable. When an animal falls ill, either nothing is done for him, which is perhaps the safer practice, or he is treated in the most empirical and often absurd manner, and without the least regard to the nature of the malady or to the particular organ or organs effected."

Respectfully yours,

Henry Butman.

Dixmont, March 30, 1840.

Original.

RUTA BAGA.

Mr. Editor:—I am desirous of trying my fortune in cultivating some of the above root. I do not anticipate having the success which some of your correspondents have met with, that of raising eleven or twelve hundred bushels to the acre. I shall be content if I can get two hundred or two hundred and fifty bushels off of half an acre.

"Tall oaks from little acorns grow,"

and if I, the ensuing season, can raise a small crop, and acquire a competent knowledge of the culture of the Ruta Baga, I may ere long raise a large one. Now as I have taken the Farmer only from the commencement of the present volume, I have not met with any account of the way in which the crop should be managed. I should be glad to have you or some one of your readers tell me how the ground should be prepared—what time, and what distances apart sown—how tended during the season, and at what time harvested. In fact, I want an account of the whole matter in extenso.

What is the most expeditious method of sowing? My brother has told me of a simple and cheap contrivance for sowing small pieces. It consists of a wheel with an axle passing through it fixed, 18 inches or two feet long according to the distance you wish to have the rows apart. The wheel to be in the centre of the axle, with a handle in which the axle revolves of 5 feet long by which to trundle the wheel. On each end of the axle is a seed holder made of tin, in the shape of a pint basin. The holders must have covers made of a very thin board or tin, and they must be fastened with the upper or larger edge out. Thus fixed, as the wheel revolves they turn. Now for sowing, let the wheel be 10 inches in diameter, or 30 inches in circumference, then when the wheel has turned once the holders are carried forward 30 inches. Let it now be required to sow the seed 10 inches distant on the outer edge of the holders where of course the seed will remain, when the wheel is rolling make three holes, large enough to let out two or three seeds at a time, at 1-3 of the distance around apart and the seed will be dropped, two rows at a time 10 inches distant. The above is I think a very good method of sowing small patches. E. A****.

P. S. What is the cause of the Scab in Sheep—and what will prevent and what cure it?

Note. The culture of Ruta Baga is exceedingly simple. The great thousand and eleven hundred bushel crops that have been raised in this vicinity were raised on a deep loamy soil, a little inclining to clay, which had been highly manured, and had been cultivated and kept clear from weeds the year before. The whole secret then lies in this. Choose a good loamy soil that is completely subdued and pulverized by previous cultivation. Manure it highly. Plough, harrow, and if you please roll it. Plant good seed in rows or drills from 18 inches to two feet apart, and about a foot apart in the rows. Weed when the plant is in the third leaf. Weed again when the plant has become large enough to transplant, and *thin* out, leaving but one in a hill. Fill up any vacancies which may occur by setting out some that you have pulled up. If your ground is weedy give it another hoeing—at any rate stirring the ground is beneficial. Let the crop stand as late in the fall as you can, and not have it freeze into the ground. We have always had the best crops in this country when we sow early—say the middle of May if not before.

We have seen good crops growing upon sward land ploughed, and a sprinkling of manure harrowed in; but we have oftener failed in this way than any other. The Ruta Baga is generally attacked by insects as soon as it is up, but if they do not eat off the top, the "*chit*" of the plant, it will go on and produce its other leaves. But sometimes you will have to replant, and perhaps *re-replant*, before you succeed. After it has begun to expand its leaves and extend its roots, it is a hardy plant; but a drowth during the last of August or in September when the root begins to *swell* out is a great damage to it, and oftentimes disappoints the expectations of the farmer. We have no doubt the Seed-sower described by our correspondent will do very well.

We have sometimes, when there was no machine at hand, and we are loth to *bend the back*, taken four laths, tacked them together, and thus made a tube about as long as a common cane, then filled our vest pocket with seed, and walking along, dropped the seed at proper distances through it, covering them with the foot. In this way you can plant them even in windy weather, and at the same time walk as "*straight as a midshipman*."

As it regards the Scab in sheep, we publish an extract from the Northern Shepherd—a work published by the Ken. Co. Ag. Society—and which every shepherd in Maine would do well to have. The work is for sale at this office. Ed.

Scab. *Appearances and Symptoms.* The first indications of the scab manifests itself by the starting of fibres and locks of wool from the rest of the fleece.

It generally begins on the rump of the animal, and extends up the back and over the sides and neck. The animal is seen rubbing and biting its sides, and exhibits signs of great itching and uneasiness. On examination the wool is found to separate easily from the skin, and there is a red appearance of the skin, small watery pimples or tetters at first show themselves, and finally dry scabs or a scurf covers the infected place. The skin has a dry, stiff, meagre feel, and it appears to be hardened in lumps or ridges. In severe cases there is a yellowish water below the crust or scab. In time, the wool falls off from the whole diseased surface, and the flock presents a miserable and disgusting appearance.

Causes. The causes of the scab are various; exposure to cold rains, and remaining in low, damp, foggy situations too long, carelessness of the Shepherd in attending to the cleanliness and comfort of the flock. Unwholesome food may also bring it on. It is contagious, and easily communicated from one sheep to another in the same manner as the itch is communicated among the human species. Hence some have considered the disease itself to consist in small animaculae which burrow in the skin. This may very probably be the case.

Treatment. On the first appearance of the scab, or itch, separate carefully those that are infected from those that are not. Having done this, you may then shear the wool, if it be not already off, from the diseased parts of the sheep disordered. Wash the parts affected with warm soap suds, and rub it briskly with a brush. Then apply some one or more of the following ointments, either of which will probably effect a cure. An ointment made of equal parts of Lard and Sulphur, in which is put a small portion of spirits of turpentine. A strong decoction of tobacco has proved a valuable remedy in this disorder, especially in the first stages of it.

A decoction of the green Hellebore, or as some call Swamp Poke, or Indian Poke, (the Veratrum viride of Botanists,) united with tobacco has been found very effectual. The mercurial ointment has also been applied with success.

From the success which attends a solution of chloride of lime in the cure of the itch in the human system we should be inclined to think that its use in this disorder among sheep would be in the highest degree beneficial. It is at any rate worth a trial.

Whatever is applied, however, should be applied promptly and thoroughly. It will not answer to do this business by the halves, unless you wish to be always anointing and washing your flock. A small patch left untouched will continue the disease and prolong your labor and trouble. Examine your flock often and closely. Do not trust to general appearances, for a sheep may have this disorder for years, and yet if she be naturally of a hardy and strong constitution, eat and drink, and appear as well as any other.

GLEANINGS

IN THE ARTS AND PRACTICAL SCIENCES.

The Tails of Comets.—[In an interesting article in Silliman's Journal, William Mitchell, of Nantucket, has advanced the idea that the luminous appendage commonly attending the visit of a comet, is not a portion of the comet itself, nor indeed any material substance at all; but that it is formed by the rays of the sun, slightly refracted by the nucleus in traversing the envelope (or atmosphere) of the comet, and uniting in an infinite number of points beyond it, and throwing a stronger light on the ethereal medium supposed to fill the regions of space.—We have not room for the whole article, but extract such passages as will give an idea of the writer's views.]—*Boston Magazine.*

There is perhaps no department of astronomical science, connected with the solar system, of a nature more interesting than that of Comets, and certainly no one which has so nearly defied the researches and the reasonings of the astronomer. Aside from these bodies, if such they may be called, the greater and the lesser lights have been subjected to rigorous weight and measure, and the solar system is emphatically the beaten way of the astronomer. Comets, however, have presented difficulties so insuperable, that in latter times, the subject seems to have been nearly abandoned in despair; and armed as the present age may be against the horrors of superstition, a cometary appearance as imposing as that of 1680, or even of the less threatening aspect of that of 1744, would create no small degree of uneasiness in some hearts of the stoutest mould. When Dr. Olbers announced that a portion of the earth's orbit would be involved in the nebulous atmosphere of Biela's comet in 1832, one half at least of the civilized world quaked with fear. Notwithstanding the alluring promise held out to the modern student by the glories of siderial astronomy, nothing can justify a neglect of phenomena, which, by a close investigation, might result in contributing so much to the tranquillity of the world.

Notwithstauding the great number of writers on this subject, and the diversity of opinions that have been promulgated, there appears to have been only two prevailing theories. The more ancient of these supposed tails to be formed by the lighter parts being thrown off by the resistance of the ether through which the comet passed. The modern and more generally prevailing theory is that these particles are driven off by the impulsive force of the sun's rays.—In each of these theories, the tails are supposed to consist of *matter*.

The truth is, as I apprehend, that the tails of comets, if the subject is properly investigated, will not be found to consist of matter at all that has the least connection with the comet, but is formed by the sun's rays, slightly refracted by the nucleus in traversing the envelope of the comet, and uniting in an infinite number of points beyond it, throwing a stronger than ordinary light on the etherial medium, near to or more remote from the comet, as the ray from its relative position and direction is more or less refracted.

It is not important to the truth of this hypothesis whether the nucleus be a solid mass or not, so that it be more dense than the surrounding nebulosity, nor yet that the tail be projected in an exact line with the radius vector of the sun and comet, so that it be nearly so. It is, however, important to its truth, that an ethereal medium should exist, otherwise the reflection of these points of light would be impossible; also, that the comet should *assume* the tail as it approaches the sun, and that it should progressively increase in strength and brilliancy, the light of the sun increasing in the proportion of the square of the diminution of distance;—again, that the tail should have a cylindrical and hollow appearance, the rays of light being at least partially obstructed by the nucleus; moreover, that the tail should be curved, by the necessary effect of aberration. I apprehend it will be acknowledged that the weight of testimony is decidedly favorable to the fact that the nuclei of comets, though they generally resemble planets in form and brilliancy, may not be solid or opaque, inasmuch as some are unquestionably transparent, and the quantity of matter in all is exceedingly inconsiderable.

Professor Sturve saw a star of the eleventh magnitude through the Encke comet; Sir William Herschel noticed one of the sixth magnitude through the centre of the comet of 1795; and his illustrious son, in a memoir communicated to the Royal Astronomical Society, mentions that he saw a cluster of stars of the sixteenth magnitude very near the centre of Biela's comet. Notwithstanding this tenuity an increased density may always be noticed toward the centre of the head, except in a few small comets unaccompanied with trains.

Astronomers of all ages seem to have been inclined to a belief in etherial medium, and the present one has afforded a conclusive evidence of its existence, in its effect upon the duration of the revolution of the Encke Comet.

When an opportunity is offered to observe a comet remote from the sun, it is generally found to be unaccompanied with a tail; but as it approaches, the tail begins to appear, and its length and brilliancy increase, till it reaches the perihelion of its orbit, and by an illusion sometimes beyond this point. Altho' there is some degree of diversity in the form of the tails of different comets, yet they generally consist of two streams of light, not absolutely distinct from each other. In other words, the borders of the tail are brightest, plainly indicating a hollowness—the line of vision necessarily meeting with the greater number of luminous points on the edges than through the middle. Can any explanation of this hollowness be given more simple and philosophical, than that the *rays of the sun's light* are more obstructed by the denser than the rarer portions of the comet?

That there is, in these tails, which acquire a considerable length, a slight curve,—concave to that portion of the orbit which the comet has left,—there is ample testimony. Now, as the light is progressive, a portion of time must elapse while the rays of light are passing from the head of the comet to their point of union, and during that period the comet moves onward in its course, and the result necessarily is a gentle or slight curve in the tail, the effect being greater or less in proportion as the union of the rays is more or less distant from the comet. It is manifest that if a ray of light could be traced during its entire course from the sun to a planet, it would present a similar phenomenon, equal in degree, if the motion of a planet were swift as that of a comet. The comets of Biela and Encke, have no tails, nor is there strictly speaking, a nucleus in either. That of Encke, during the long period in 1828, when its position was so favorable to observation, had the appearance of a mere film of vapor, nearly circular, but not well defined, and no central, stellar point could be detected with the telescopic power which I employed on that occasion.

It is no small confirmation of the truth of this explanation of the tails of comets, that there is not the slightest evidence, worthy of confidence, that the earth which we inhabit has ever been sensibly affected by a visitation from these enormous appendages, while the chance of collision between the earth and the nucleus of a comet, properly so called, is exceedingly small; yet when we reflect upon the number of comets belonging to our system, the hundreds that range within the earth's orbit, that their paths have every possible inclination to the eliptic, that these immensely extended trains, projected in direction *from* the sun, describe an inconceivable sweep when they are encompassing the sun in the region of their perihelion; I say, in view of these circumstances, it is difficult to avoid the conjecture, nay, it is exceedingly probable that these appendages, in very many instances, have brushed across the surface of our planet, harmlessly and unperceived.

MISCELLANEOUS RECEIPTS.

Spruce Beer.—The proportions are ten gallons of water, three quarts of molasses, a tea-cupful of ginger the same of allspice, three ounces of hops three ounces and a half of the essence of spruce, and half a pint of good yeast. The hops, ginger, and allspice must be boiled together till the hops fall to the bottom; the molasses and spruce are then to be dissolved in a bucket-full of the liquor, the whole strained into a cask, and the yeast well stirred in; when the fermentation ceases, the cask is to be bunged up.

Balm Beer.—Eleven gallons of water and ten pounds of brown sugar are to be clarified with the whites of twelve eggs, carefully skimmed and boiled till nearly reduced to ten gallons; two pounds and a half of the yellow flower of lemon balm being put into a cask, the liquor when milk-warm is to be poured over it, and four or five table-spoonfuls of thick yeast added. The cask must be filled up morning and evening with what works over it, and bunged up when fermentation ceases. In a month the beer may be bottled, and in two or three months it will be fit for drinking. Half the quantity of the flower of lemon balm will probably be found to communicate a flavor sufficiently strong, if added when the fermentation is nearly over.

Ginger Beer.—For a ten-gallon cask, eleven gallons of water, fourteen pounds of sugar, the juice of eighteen lemons, and one pound of ginger are allowed; the sugar and water are boiled with the whites of eight eggs, and well skimmed; just before coming to the boiling point, the ginger, which must be bruised, is then added, and boiled for twenty minutes; when cold, the clear part is put into the cask, together with the lemon-juice two spoonfuls of yeast; when it has fermented for three or four days, it is fined, bunged up, and in a fortnight bottled. It may be made without the fruit.

Ginger Beer, quickly made.—A gallon of boiling water is poured over three-quarters of a pound of loaf sugar, one ounce and a quarter of ginger, and the peel of one lemon; when milk-warm, the juice of the lemon and a spoonful of yeast are added. It should be made in the evening, and bottled next morning, in half-pint stone bottles, and the cork tied down with twine.

If beer becomes hard or stale, a few grains of carbonate of potash added to it at the time it is drunk will correct it, and make draught beer as brisk as bottled ale.

LEGAL.

Query.—Can a mortgagor's right to redeem his interest in any real estate be attached and sold legally on a Justice Execution? E. W.

If our correspondent refers to a common Execution, issued on a judgment recovered before a Justice of the Peace, we reply that we are not aware of any provision of law giving the right to attach and sell real estate, or a Mortgagor's interest therein on such Execution. On a Confession Execution, issued by a Justice of the Peace we think it may be attached and sold. See forms of Executions prescribed by law pp. 385 & 387 of Smith's Laws of Maine, and Green. Rep. vol. 7, p. 46, Chandler v. Morton.

KEN. CO. AG. SOCIETY.

The Trustees of the Kennebec County Agricultural Society offer the following premiums recommended by the several Standing Committees, viz:

CROPS.

For the best crop of summer wheat on not less than one acre, Diploma and $4,00
" second best do. do. 4,00
" best crop of Indian corn on not less than one acre, Diploma and 3,00
" second do do 3,00
" best do do on 1-2 an acre one vol. Maine Farmer.
" best crop of Barley on not less than one acre, Diploma and 3,00
" second do do 3,00
" best crop of summer or winter Rye on not less than one acre 3,00
" second do do one vol. Maine Farmer,
" best crop of Flax on not less than 1-2 acre 2,00
" best crop of white Beans on not less than 1-2 an acre 3,00
" best crop of Peas on not less than one acre 2,00
" best crop of Oats and Peas on not less than one acre 3,00
" second do do 2,00
" best crop of Oats on not less than one acre 3,00
" second do do one vol. Maine Farmer.
" best crop of Ruta Baga seed 1,50
" greatest quantity of garden seeds of the best quality 3,00
" greatest quantity of Roots raised on one farm proper regard being had to the size of the farm and to the amount of stock kept, and Hay and Grain cut upon it, Diploma and 4,00
" best crop of Ruta Baga on not less than one acre 4,00
" second do do 3,00
" best do on 1-2 an acre, Diploma and 2,00
" second do do 2,00
" best do on 1-4 acre 1,50
" best crop Mangel Wurtzel on not less than 1-4 acre 2,00
" do do on 1-8 acre 1,50
" best crop English Turnips on 1-4 acre 2,00
" best crop of Sugar Beets on 1-4 acre Diploma and 2,00
" second do do 2,00
" best crop of Carrots on 1-4 acre 2,00
" best crop of Onions not less than twenty bushels 2,00
" best crop of Potatoes on not less than one acre Diploma and 3,00
" second do do 3,00
" best do on 1-2 an acre 2,00
" best crop of Pumpkins on not less than 1-4 acre exclusively devoted to them, one vol. Maine Farmer and 1,00
" second do do one vol. Ruffin's Essay & 2,00
" best specimen of Clover seed not less than 50 lbs. one vol. Maine Farmer.
" best specimen of Herds grass seed not less than two bushels 1,50
" best specimen of seedling or native Pears for which a premium has not been given by the Society, 1-2 bushel 1,00
" best specimen of fall or winter Pears not less than 1-2 bushel under same condition as the last, each 1,00
" best specimen of native apples, not less than one bushel, for which a premium has not been given by the Society 1,00
" best specimen of fall or winter Apples not less than one bushel under same condition as the last, each 1,00
" best specimen of Grapes not less than 10 pounds 1,00
" best specimen of Water melons not less than one dozen ,50
" best do Muskmelons do ,50
" greatest number of Hives of Bees produced on one farm, Diploma and 1,00
" greatest quantity of Honey taken up on one farm one vol. Maine Farmer.
" best variety of early seed corn 1,00
" best variety of early Peas ,50

To the person who shall during the season put in the best state of preparation for crops, the greatest quantity of bog lands, one vol. Maine Farmer and 4,00

To the person who shall prepare during the ensuing season the greatest quantity of the best compost manure not less than 25 cords, one volume Ruffin's Essay on calcareous manure and 5,00
" second do do not less than 20 cords one vol. Ruffin's Essay and 4,00
" third do do not less than 15 cords one vol. Maine Farmer and 2,00

To the Farmer who shall exhibit upon his farm the greatest skill in management in the production of crops, stock and all other produce of the farm together with enclosures 10,00
" second do do 7,00

COMMITTEES.

Standing Committee on Agriculture.—Henry G. Cole, Isaac Wadsworth, Joseph A. Metcalf.

Adjudging Committees.

On Wheat, Barley, Oats, Corn, Rye, Peas, Oats & Peas, Beans, Seed Corn, and Early Peas.—Jacob Pope, Hallowell, Wadsworth Foster, Winthrop, Rufus Moody, Monmouth.

On Apples, Pears, Grapes, Melons, Pumpkins, Hives of bees and Honey.—John Gilmore, Leeds, Bradford Sawtelle, Sidney, Elias Whiting, Winthrop.

On greatest quantity of Roots, Potatoes, Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, Sugar Beet, English Turnips, Onions, and carrots.—Josiah Whitten, Readfield, Levi Cochran, Fayette, Alvah Wadsworth, Hallowell.

On Flax, Clover Seed, Herds grass Seed, greatest quantity of Garden Seed, Mustard Seed, and Ruta Buga Seed.—John E. Snell, Winthrop, William Rice, Monmouth, M. H. Metcalf, Winthrop.

On Reclaimed Bogs, Compost Manure, and Farms.—Thomas Pierce, Readfield, John Kezer Jr., Winthrop, E. Folsom, Monmouth.

In order to prevent the difficulties, delays, misunderstandings and disappointment which might arise from a non-compliance, on the part of competitors, with the regulations of the Society, it seems necessary again very strongly to call the attention of competitors and adjudging committees to the *Fact*, that no premiums will be paid, for any object, however worthy, unless accompanied by a statement, showing, in the case of crops, the kind of soil and as near as may be, its condition during the three preceding years—the kind and quantity of manure—when and how applied—of seed, and when sown or planted—in short describing with sufficient minuteness, all the important circumstances in the production of the crop; so that those who wish, may know how to go and do likewise; and these statements must be substantiated by such evidence as shall be satisfactory to the committees.—And the committees are reminded that these statements must be by them delivered to the Secretary of the Society.

In regard to compost manure, the different materials of which it is composed should be mentioned, and also, their relative proportions, and, if mixed with the manure of cattle, there must be, exclusive of that, the full number of cords for which the different premiums are respectively offered.

STOCK.

For the best entire Horse that shall stand for the use of Mares during the season of 1840 in the county $3,00
" best breeding Mare 2,00
" best yoke of working Oxen, Diploma and 4,00
" second do do 3,50
" third do do 3,00
" fourth do do 2,00
" fifth do do 1,50
" best team of working oxen from the farms of any town, not less than ten yokes 8,00
" second do do 7,00
" third do do 6,00

But one team from any town can receive either of the above premiums.

For the best milch cow having regard to general properties one vol. of the Maine Farmer, Diploma and 1,50
" second best 1 Vol. of the Me. Farmer and 1,00
" third do 1,50
" best Bull not less than two years old, to be kept during the season of 1840, for the use of cows in this County, one volume Maine Farmer, Diploma and 3,00
" second do do 1 vol. of the Maine Farmer and 2,00
" best yearling Bull and kept as above 2,00
" second do do 1,00
" best bull calf Diploma and 1,00
" best pair of 3 years old Steers 2,00
" second do do 1,50
" third do do 1,00
" best pair of 2 years old Steers 2,00
" second do do 1,50
" third do do 1,00
" best yearling Steers 2,00
" second do do 1,00
" best 2 years old milch Heifer 1 vol. Me. Farmer.
" second do do 1,00
" best yearling Heifer 1,50
" second do do ,75
" best Heifer calf 1,00
" second do do ,50
" best pair of Steer Calves not less than six months old 1,00
" second do do ,50
" best flock of Merino Ewes, not less than ten in number, Diploma and 2,00
" best South Down Ewe 1,00
" best full blood Merino Buck 1,50
" second do do 1,00
" best Ram of any breed or any cross, Diploma and 1,50
" best South Down Buck 1,00
" best specimen of Sheep not less than ten in number, produced from any cross that will give the most profitable breed of Sheep 3,00
" second do do 2,00
" best Boar from a neighboring State, that shall, in the opinion of the committee, possess a superiority to the breeds common in the vicinity, to be kept in this County till the first of April 1841, one volume Maine Farmer and 3,00
" best Boar raised in the county and kept as above, one copy of Ruffins Essay on calcareous Manures and 2,00
" second best do kept as above 1 volume of Ruffin's Essay on Calcareous Manures and 1,00
" best breeding Sow not less than one year old to be kept in the County one year, one volume Maine Farmer.
" second best do 1,00
" best litter of pigs not less than six in number, 1 vol. of the Maine Farmer.
" second best do 1,00

To the person who shall present satisfactory evidence to the adjudging committee of his having adopted the best and cheapest mode of raising pork; accompanied with a statement of the whole expense of raising, the course pursued in feeding, the breed and amount of pork so raised one copy of Ruffin's Essay on cal. manure and 4,00

PLOUGHING MATCH.—To the person who shall plough 1-8 of an acre of sward-land in the best manner at the least expense in suitable time without injuring his team

1st 5,00
2d best do 4,50
3d best do 4,00
4th best do 3,50
5th best do 3,00

COMMITTEES.

Standing Committee on Stock.—John Fairbanks, James Page, John Hains.

Adjudging Committees.

On Horses.—George Williamson, Pittston, John Philbrick, Mt. Vernon, Nathaniel Lovering, Augusta.

On Working Oxen.—Daniel Marston, Mt. Vernon, William Lovejoy, Sidney, Elkanah McLellan Gardiner.

On Ploughing Match.—Stillman Howard, Leeds, Samuel Cummings Jr., Augusta, Ebenezer Freeman, Monmouth.

On Bulls.—John Kezer Jr., Winthrop, John Hawkes, Hallowell, Howard B. Lovejoy, Fayette.

On Steers.—Levi Page Jr., Augusta, Robert Ford, Readfield, Jonathan Marston, Monmouth.

On Cows and Heifers.—Russel Eaton, Augusta, Joel White, Winthrop, John Morrison, Wayne.

On Sheep.—Elijah Barrel, Greene, Moses Tabor, Vassalboro', Elias Gove, Readfield.

On Swine.—Amos Nourse, Hallowell, Dexter Baldwin, Mt. Vernon, Ezekiel Bailey, Winthrop.

REGULATIONS IN AWARDING PREMIUMS ON STOCK.

Competitors for premiums on all animals must present to the Adjudging Committee, before the examination, a written statement of the breed and age of their animals, the kind of keeping they have received, by whom reared, the general system pursued in breeding rearing, and training, the difference of expense compared with the common method of rearing stock, and their qualities for labor, the dairy, fattening or for other purposes.

It is recommended to the Committee on Working Oxen and Steers, to have particular reference to the discipline and the ease with which they perform their draught. It is also recommended to the Committee on the ploughing match to have very especial reference to the training of the teams, the ease and suitable length of time with which they perform their labor and the workmanlike manner in which the furrows are cut and turned. No animal for which a first premium has been given by this Society will be entitled to another premium under the same entry, except oxen in the teams from towns and teams used in ploughing.

MANUFACTURES.

For the best Drill Machine $2,00
" " Straw Cutter 2,00
" " Cradle for gathering grain 1,00
" " Horse Rake 1,00
" " Harrow 1,00
" " Half doz. hay rakes 1,00
" " Half doz. Scythe Snaiths 1,00
" " Ox yoke and bows 1,00
" " Breaking up plough, value to be tested by actual operation 2,00

To the person who shall produce in writing the best and most economical process for converting to manure, the waste waters from the kitchen, sink, wash-tub &c. one vol. Maine Farmer & 1,00

For a plan of the best constructed building and yard, for keeping swine having regard to making manure, as well as convenience for feeding one vol. Maine Farmer and 2,00

For the best specimen of fulled cloth not less than ten yards 2,00

" best specimen of woollen flannel not less than ten yards 1,00

" best Counterpane 1,00

" " specimen of table linen 6-4 wide 1,00

" " specimen Woollen carpeting not less than 20 yards, Diploma and 2,00

" " Hearth rug 1,00

" " Three threaded worsted yarn not less than 2 lbs. ,75

" " Linen thread ,75

" " specimen of sewing silk not less than 1-4 pound Diploma.

" " specimen of wove silk not less than 3-4 yard 1,00

" " pair silk hose ,75

" " work pocket ,75

" " wrought wristlets ,75

" " " " Muslin Collars ,50

" " pair silk gloves manufactured from native silk 1,00

" " Fur Cape 1,00

" " substitute for fur cape 1,00

" " Highland Shawl, Diploma and 1,00

" " Lace veil 1,00

" " Knit Drawers ,75

" " specimen of Straw Bonnets not less than one doz. Diploma and 3,00

To the person who shall manufacture the greatest number of straw bonnets between this time and the ensuing Fair, and exhibit a sample of them of not less than one doz. to the adjudging committee accompanied with satisfactory evidence of the whole amount manufactured, Diploma & 3,00

For the best apparatus or Machine to propel machinery, by horse or other animal power, 1 vol. Maine Farmer and 3,00

" best Machine for manufacturing sewing silk, one vol. Maine Farmer and 3,00

" best specimen hay forks not less than one half dozen 2,00

" best specimen manure forks not less than one half dozen 2,00

" best specimen Narrow axes not less than one half dozen 1,00

" best lot framing chisels 1,00

" " specimen of hoes not less than 1-2 doz 1,00

" " " " of scythes not less than one half dozen 2,00

" best pair men's Calf skin boots (sewed) 1,00

" " " " (pegged) ,75

" " do thick do sewed 1,00

" " do do do pegged ,75

" best pair women's walking shoes ,75

" " do do Kid Slippers ,75

" " specimen of thick cloth having regard to cost and durability, not less than twenty yards Diploma and 2,00

" best specimen of fur or napt hats not less than 1-2 dozen 1,00

" second best ,75

" best specimen of Cloth Caps not less than 1-2 dozen ,75

" greatest quantity of cocoons, 1 vol. Me. Farmer.

" best pair over shoes, 1 vol. Me. Farmer and 1,00

" best Knitting machine 1,00

" best machine for hulling barley and oats, to be kept in operation one year in the county one vol. Maine Farmer and 15,00

" greatest quantity of beet sugar, accompanied with a written statement of the process of manufacturing 3,00

" best specimen of sugar manufactured from sweet apples accompanied with a written statement of the process of manufacturing 1,00

" greatest quantity of Maple sugar under same regulations, Diploma and 2,00

" best cheese not less than 50 lbs. 3,00

" 2d best do do do 2,00

" 3d do do do do 1,00

" best butter not less than 40 lbs. 3,00

" 2d best do do do 2,00

" 3d do do do do 1,00

COMMITTEES.

Standing Committee on Manufactures.—Alden Sampson, Horace Parlin, and Samuel Benjamin.

Adjudging Committees.

On Drill Machine, Straw Cutter, Grain Cradle, Breaking up Plough, Horse rake, Ox yoke, Harrow, Hay rakes and Scythe Snaiths.—Benjamin H. Cushman, Winthrop, Jabez Churchill, Hallowell, Samuel Davis, Mt. Vernon, Wm. F. Purinton, Sidney.

On Fulled Cloth, Woolen Flannel, Counterpane, Table Linen, Woolen Carpeting, Hearth Rug, Straw Bonnets, Worsted Yarn, Linen Thread, Sewing Silk, Wove Silk, Silk Hose, Work Pocket, Wristlets, Muslin Collar, Silk Gloves, Fur Cape, substitute for Fur Cape, Shawl, Veil and Drawers.—Harrison Parlin, Winthrop, James H. Merrill, Winthrop, A. B. Morton, Hallowell, Jotham Crane, Fayette.

On Apparatus for propelling machinery, Silk Machine, Hay Forks, Manure Forks, Axes, Chisels, Hoes, Knitting Machine, Scythes, Machine for Hulling Barley.—G. W. Fairbanks, Wayne, John Stone Jr., Gardiner, Joseph Fairbanks, Winthrop, Leavitt Lothrop, Leeds.

On Boots, Shoes, Thick Cloth, Hats, Caps, and Cocoons.—Ezekiel Holmes, Winthrop, C. B. Morton, Augusta, Jacob Hooper, Augusta, Joshua Turner, Leeds.

On Sugar, Butter, and Cheese.—Elijah Barrel, Green, Peleg Benson Jr., Winthrop, John P. Flagg, Hallowell, Joseph R. Abbot, Augusta.

On the best process of converting sink water, &c. into manure, construction of buildings for keeping swine &c. and the best method of making pork.—Ezekiel Holmes, Moses B. Sears, and Truxton Wood.

To be entitled to a premium on Butter, Cheese or Sugar, the competitor must leave with the Secretary Wm. Noyes, at the time the entry is made, a written statement of the process of Manufacturing the same—also each article must be manufactured in the county except Barley Huller, Plough, Straw Cutter, Silk Machine and Knitting Machine.

THE VISITOR.

CONDUCTED BY CYRIL PEARL.

We call the attention of our readers this week to the poetry which we republish from the Family and School Visitor, believing that all our readers will take more pleasure in the attentive reading of this than in any thoughts of our own which might otherwise fill its place. May we not hope occasionally to receive a contribution for the Farmers of Maine from the same chaste and prolific pen?

THE HOME IN THE MOUNTAINS.

A few miles back of the early residence of the writer, is a range of beautiful mountains. They are gradual in their ascent, and in some places cultivated to the top. They are inhabited by an industrious and intelligent, and for the most part, a religious people. These mountains were the scene of the writer's youthful visits; and it was his good fortune to become acquainted with some of the inhabitants. It is the object of the following Poem to embody some of the pleasing impressions to which that acquaintance gave rise.

I.

I, who with other scenes familiar grown,
Have spent my days amid the city's strife,
Too long to rugged hills and woods unknown,
Have learnt at last the joys of cottage life,
The hardy toil, the form inspir'd with health,
The warmth of friendship, and the guileless ways.
Ye, who in vain seek happiness in wealth,
Attentive, meditate my simple lays,
Inspired by truth, perchance, if wanting other praise.

II.

Up, from the mart of busy commerce flee,
Its pomp and jarring tumult leave behind;
When birds are singing in the summer's tree,
Or Autumn comes his golden sheaves to bind.
Go forth amid the forest and the rocks,
And there untarnished truth and virtue trace;
As thou shalt see the shepherd with his flocks,
Or scan, as I do now, the ploughman's race,
Or, at the cottage hearth, shalt mingle face to face.

III

'Twas thus I onward far'd, one summer's day,
Where rising hills in native grandeur spread;
Lonely and far the path ascending lay,
That upward to the Farmer's dwelling led.
The merry birds pour'd forth their various song;
The squirrel on the hazel took his seat;
The bubbling brooks danc'd rapidly along,
And filled the forest with their echoes sweet,
As through the woods I went, my rural friend to meet.

IV.

Nor was the meeting void of friendship's truth,
Repress'd by selfishness, or marr'd by fears;
For we had known each other in our youth,
And youthful love had grown with riper years.
His Home was in the Mountains. Far from noise,
And undisturb'd by grandeur's gaudy scene,
He, with his wife and children, had his joys,
Calm as their mountain sunset's ray serene,
Although, at times perchance, some clouds may intervene.

V.

His bliss was not in Idleness, 'tis true.
(On that dull tree true pleasure will not grow.)
The Farmer ever had his work to do;
And wanton days and slothful, did not know.
The sun, that doth no sluggard's part fulfil,
What time it decks the sky with earliest red,
And scales with dewy step the eastern hill,
Ne'er found him useless in the loiterer's bed,
But forth, with men and boys, where toil and duty led.

VI.

Uprose the sun, and "uprose Emily;"
Thus English Chaucer sung in days of old.
Uprose the sun; nor was less pleas'd to see
The Farmer's daughters, with his eye of gold.
The morning maids were at their milking pail;
And soon the cows, obedient to their word,
Regain'd, in lengthen'd rew, the distant vale;
And all around, to higher anthems stirr'd,
From glittering bush and tree, sung loud the early bird.

VII.

The Maids, if right I saw, were well content,
Nor envied aught the sport and splendor found
Among the gay, the proud, the opulent.
Far other cares they knew. The daily round
Of household duties occupied their thought;
The churn, the wheel, and to the parent pair,
By Nature's strong unerring instinct taught,
They fondly gave their homage and their care.
Such were their useful toils; such humble joys they share.

VIII.

One ruling wish they had. It was to spend
Upon their native hills their peaceful days,
Where they had known the neighbor and the friend,
A parent's fondness, and a brother's praise.
"Still to our hearts our native hills are dear,"
Thus sung they oft by murmuring brook and tree,
Where, with their gossip maids they sit and hear,
At sultry noon or starlight shining free,
Of all their sports and toils, the humble history.

IX.

Those, who are pent in sylvan scenes apart,
Whene'er they meet, have ever much to say;
Their words bear not the stamp of polish'd art,
Nor are they such, as higher minds might sway.
But though their speech is not of things, that thrill,
And bring sad shadows o'er the throbbing brow,
'Tis such as may a Cotter's fancy fill,
Though but the story of his faithful plough,
Or of his petted lamb, or luckless wandering cow.

X.

Sometimes the sheep, that stray, ne'er come again;
Sometimes the fox invades the garden's bound;
Or sudden winds have vex'd the standing grain,
Or blown, alas, the village steeple down.
But all such things shall pass, as they have come,
And every shadow from the memory flee,
When Lucy's brother from the town comes home,
And Jeannie's lad returns from o'er the sea,
To rest from toil awhile, in mountain liberty.

XI.

'Tis ever thus. The ties of friend and kin
Are found most strong and most with pleasure rife,
Among the dwellings of the poor, and in
The unambitious walks of rural life.
With woods around them, waters at their feet,
With flowers beneath, and fragrance in the air,
'Tis not in vain, that they each other meet;
Not one, that has a pleasure or a care,
But calls a kindred heart, that joy or grief to share.

XII.

The restless steers are fasten'd to the wain;
(I mark'd them ere they went their sounding way;)
The early ditcher seeks the fields again,
With shovel glancing in the morning ray.
With bag and barley from the threshing-floor,
The slow-pac'd horse expands his loaded side.
The feather'd group surround the cottage door,
And Mary, with her basin well supplied,
Forth from her little hand their portion doth divide.

XIII.

Far in the noisy woods, the bleating sheep
Ascend the rocks, and breathe the upland air.
The fair-hair'd William there his watch doth keep,
Too young as yet, a higher charge to share.
Nor outward sights alone refresh the eye,
Nor outward labors to the heart appeal:
The elder Jane her constant task doth ply,
Within the cottage-walls, with cheerful zeal,
And, singing rural songs, still turns her murmuring wheel.

XIV.

Such are the scenes, that Mountains Homes unfold;
The history such of those who till the land.
Forth in the fields the Cotter's self behold
Behind his plough, with persevering hand.
Nor deem it a disgrace the plough to guide:
Did not Great Cincinnatus till the ground,
He, who the hostile Volsci scatter'd wide?
The Seer Elisha at the plough was found;
The plough, that rev'rence claims the mighty world around.

XV.

I venerate the man, the plough who speeds,
The independent tiller of the soil,
Who, boasting not of vainly glorious deeds,
Yet scorns to live by other people's toil.
Though all unnotic'd in ambition's strife,
Which, with its noisy war, doth wide resound,
There's yet a pleasure in the Ploughman's life,
A bliss, attendant on the cultur'd ground,
Which kings and Cæsars seek, but never yet have found.

XVI.

And then at eve behold him at his hearth,
Planning the duties of the coming morn;
How one shall wield the axe or spade the earth,
Another's task to till the tender corn:
Around him sit the peaceful household train;
And he, by Nature's right, their guide and head.
Than this, what juster power, or glorious reign!
The lads mark'd well whate'er the Father said,
By his experience taught, and by his wisdom led.

XVII.

And if at times the children leave their home,
In village near, some little wealth to earn,
The heart, untravell'd, hath no power to roam,
Nor long the time which sees them all return.
Fair shines their cottage to the mental sight,
And pleasures blossom in their mountain air.
Scarce does the week resign its parting light,
When, with a love unchang'd they forth repair,
And hail their happy hearth, its wonted blessings share.

XVIII.

And thus in solitude, yet not alone,
They have their joys and duties day by day;
To them unchanging Honor's path is known,
Though shut from noisy Glory's towering way.
Their feelings deep; if pensive, yet sincere:
And when they meet, pour'd through each other's mind,
In answering smiles, or sympathizing tear;
With power too great for outward forms to bind,
And pure as they are strong, though not by art refin'd.

XIX.

And on some pleasant days, in shaded walks,
They wander far, when hills and woods are green;
Around them is the voice of joyful flocks,
And flowers, and sounding waters grace the scene.
Yes, there are those, the pure and high of soul,
Whose passions, by a Holy Power subdued,
Are won to virtue's wise and just control;
And such, though deem'd in outward manners rude,
Shall drink, from Nature's works, the beautiful and good.

XX.

And Nature is to them a living thing,
Food to the heart and beauty to the eye;
The hill, the mossy tree, the bubbling spring,
The bud, the flower, the Autumn's mellow sky,
Awake the moral thought and sympathy.
The bird goes singing up, its joy revealing;
The gilded insect passes buzzing by;
The quiet bee, o'er beds of flow'rets stealing;
All share their joyful eye, all wake their better feeling.

XXI.

Those whom religious life hath given to know
The right, the pure, the honest, and the fair,
Have a new power. In all above, below,
In heaven and earth, the waters and the air,
There's a new glow of beauty. Gods's reveal'd;
The high, entranced eye of Faith can see,
(No longer by the earth's dim shadows seal'd,)
The bright effulgence of the Deity,
The glory now that is, the greater that shall be.

XXII.

That glory shines in every planet's ray;
'Tis sounding forth in every blessed rill;
Upon the winged winds it makes its way,
O'er blooming valley, and o'er frowning hill;
And sends its light from all creation round.
In rural scenes, from polish'd Arts afar,
Where Faith in all its holy power is found,
It shines with nought its lustre that may mar,
Enthron'd in life and heart, the favorite guiding star.

SUMMARY.

Our correspondent "Ephebus" is informed that his communication has been received and will appear. We sometimes take the liberty when the subjects of original articles do not demand an immediate publication, to arrange them with reference to length and subjects, so as to make up as good an assortment of matter for each paper as we can. We shall always be happy to hear from him.

Several other communications on hand will be attended to soon.

Correspondence of the Journal of Commerce.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, March 26th.

IMPORTANT! MAINE BOUNDARY QUESTION.

A message from the President of the United States, was received in the Senate, transmitting documents and correspondence in relation to the occupation of a part of the State of Maine by British troops. The tone of the correspondence is serious. The matter has assumed a new aspect, and it would seem that, if we would escape national disgrace, we must do something besides talking in this business. I did not hear the correspondence read, if it was read, but I understand it is now, openly avowed by the British authorities, that they have taken possession of what they call the "disputed territory," and intend to maintain it; and they demand that the *posse*, which has always been kept there by the State of Maine, shall be withdrawn. In the event of neglect to withdraw it, they distinctly *threaten* us with the "*consequences*." The amount of this is, that if we do not abandon the territory to them, they will drive us out of it. Mr. Forsyth demands the withdrawal of the British troops, and the adjustment of the question of right to the territory.

The matter seemed to produce no excitement in the Senate, because the character of the correspondence has been known for some days.

Mr. Williams, of Maine, said he was glad the question was thus brought to an issue.

Mr. Davis, of Mass., said, it was now evident that we could temporize no longer. We must assert our rights, or abandon them. We should no longer admit that any part of our territory was in "*dispute*." He regretted that we had ever allowed the use of the phrase "*disputed territory*." There was no dispute about it; there was an *intrusion* upon it by the British authorities.

Mr. Webster expressed his deep regret that the two countries were likely to come into collision, not on the main question, but on intermediate and collateral matters. It was unfortunate that however pacific might be the disposition of England or of this Government, the question was one that was likely to fester and become a matter of collision between the inhabitants of the two sides of the line. He had, therefore, endeavored, formerly, to impress our Government with the necessity of settling the question. There was no reason to doubt the sincerity of the often repeated professions on the part of the British Government of a desire to settle the question amicably and justly. But, so long as the question was open, it would be irritating to the inhabitants on both sides of the line, and would become more and more dangerous every day.

This correspondence, earnest as was the tone that it assumed, turned not upon the main question, but on the manner in which the agreement respecting the occupation of the territory *ad interim* had been fulfilled. These questions would be multiplied, and become more and more exasperated and exasperating, the longer they were left open. It was important to both countries to settle the ulterior question. It was necessary that the adjustment of the question should be urged, as far as the power of national intercourse would permit.

Mr. Williams, of Maine, said, for twenty-five years, we have heard of the pacific disposition of the British government on this subject; and she would be of the same disposition 25 years longer, if we would permit the question to remain as it is. But the period has arrived when she can no longer occupy the territory peaceably. What does she do now? Why she persists in that occupancy.—Would any American citizen consent to this? He concurred with Mr. Davis that it was an error to allow that any part of our territory was in *dispute*. There was no dispute on the subject till 1814. Great Britain made the dispute. The moment we attempted to bring it to a close she *threatened* us with "*consequences*." He was anxious to put the question in such a shape that the right to the territory would be settled. The time, he repeated, had arrived when Great Britain could not delay the settlement of the question, and finding that, she *took possession* of the territory and threatened us with consequences. He was glad that it was so. He rejoiced that the matter was now in such a state that it must be settled.

Mr. Webster concurred with his colleague, and the gentleman from Maine, that there was no dispute as to the territory—and that we ought not to admit that there was any dispute. He was unwilling that the issue should be changed. He did not wish to divert it to a question of temporary possession; and when this Government acted, he hoped they would act on the original question.

The Message was refered to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and ten thousand extra copies ordered to be printed.

War is talked of in all circles. It is agreed by every one that no war can arise from the direct action of the two governments. But the apprehension is that collision and bloodshed may take place on the border, and thus involve the two countries. Gen. Scott must go down there again to keep the peace. I forget to mention that the correspondence between Mr. Fox and Mr. Forsyth on this subject has been closed by the former, and that the temper of Mr. Forsyth's letter is very good, showing therein under what direction he wrote.

Factory Burnt.—On Wednesday night, a building owned by the Newport Manufacturing Co., in Newport, N. H. was destroyed by fire, together with $5,000 worth of stock and machinery, owned by Mr. Philo Fuller, who occupied it as a worsted factory.

☞ A CAUTION.—There is one thing, which no MAN should do, which no GENTLEMAN will do, which no person who wishes to maintain a character for honesty and respectability will be guilty of, and that is,—*refusing to take a paper from the Post Office till he is* CERTAIN *that all arrearages are paid*. Every individual has an undoubted right to judge for himself whether he wishes to take a paper longer or not, and to discontinue if he chooses; but *no one* has a right to do it, without a full compliance with the terms of publication. It is ineffably *mean* as well as dishonest, to cheat the proprietor of a newspaper, out of the trifling sums, which go to make up the sum total of his income.

Papers are sometimes returned to us,—or we are notified by the Post Master, that they are not taken from the office, for which, so far as our books show, nothing has been paid. In some cases, we suppose payment may have been made to our agent,—and when this is done, we should be so notified through the Post Master. In other cases we have reason to believe, the thing is done without paying.—We must adopt some method to guard against such practices. In future we shall publish the names of those, who discontinue, with the amount due *according to our books*, that the individuals concerned may have an opportunity to explain, or to make payment as the case may require.

The practice is too frequent of letting a paper continue a few weeks beyond the time, to which payment has been made, and then discontinuing without even asking the question whether any thing is due. Let such remember that withholding what is due is dishonesty, whether the amount is small or large.—*He that is unfaithful in little will also be unfaithful in much.*—Maine Temperance Gazette.

Mr. Naylor, Member of Congress from Philadelphia, has been challenged to a duel by a son of C. J. Ingersol, who is contesting his seat. Mr. Naylor declined on the ground that the bearer of the challenge did not conduct himself like a gentleman. Mr. Naylor and Mr. Ingersol have both been bound over, in the sum of $2,000 each—by a Philadelphia Alderman, to keep the peace.—*Ib.*

Mr. Amos Prescott, a native of Boston, has been shot by order of Don Manuel Rico, a revolutionary chief now in rebellion against the Government of Buenos Ayres, on pretence of his being a spy of that government. Mr. Prescott was a resident of Buenos Ayres, and had a wife and three children.—*Ib.*

Among the passengers in the British Queen, is Mr. Bihin, the celebrated Belgian giant, who stands *eight feet six inches in his stockings*, and is said to be naturally and finely proportioned and possessed of astonishing strength.

The Massachusetts House of Representatives have decided, by a very large majority, *not* to abolish the Board of Education and Normal Schools.

ACCIDENTS.—We learn that Mr. Charles Pratt of Weld, received an injury on the 15th ult. while spending an evening in Mexico, which caused his death in about 32 hours. He was trying to turn a somerset by drawing himself up on a hook in the ceiling over head, and was about to turn through his hands when the hook drew out and let him fall to the floor, starting the spine. He was about 28 years of age, and bore the character of an honest, upright, trustworthy young man.

In Mexico, on the 14th ult. Charles Jacobs, son of Mr Joseph Jacobs, aged about 17 years, was instantly killed by the falling of a tree. He was at work cutting wood in the woods with his father and had lodged a tree, which he was felling, on another, and while cutting away the last the former suddenly gave way and crushed him to death instantly.—Oxford Dem.

A letter from Marseilles states that the Chamber of Commerce in that city have subscribed liberally, for a line of steamboats from thence to the United States. The boats are to be ten in number, and the government gives 2,000,000 francs to aid in the enterprise.

The number of votes cast at the late election in New Hampshire, was about 50,000. Governor Page is re-elected by a majority exceeding 7000.

"Well, stranger, where are you out'n?" said a landlady of Arkansas to her guest.

"Why, madam, I am now from Baltimore, Maryland, but I was born and brought up in Massachusetts, near Boston," said the gentleman. "Aint that whar the Yankees live?" said the lady. "Yes ma'am," replied the gentleman. "Law me! you are the very man I have been looking arter this long time, my clock is out of fix," ejaculated the lady in ecstacies of joy.

An Honest Attorney.—An attorney, on the marriage of his son, gave him £500, and handed him over a Chancery suit, with some common law actions. About two years afterwards the son asked his father for more business. "Why I gave you that capital Chancery suit," replied the

father, "and then you have got a great many new clients; what more can you want?" "Yes, sir," replied the son, "but I have *wound up* the Chancery suit, and given my client great satisfaction, and he is in possession of the estate." "What! you improvident fool," rejoined the father indignantly, "that suit was in my family 25 years, & would have continued so as much longer if I had kept it. I shall not encourage such a fellow." The sequel of the story is that the father died a few years afterwards in comparative poverty, while the son continued to conduct his business honorable and uprightly for 15 years, and has now retired on an estate which he purchased, and where he resides respected and esteemed by all who know him.—*Law and Lawyers.*

Small Pox.—The Bay State Democrat of Tuesday evening, says there were *nine* deaths by small pox in Boston last week.

Another Boat on the Kennebec.—The Augusta Banner says it is a fact that the Portsmouth has been purchased, to be run as a day boat by Capt. Brown, between there and Boston. She will commence her trips immediately.

LATER FROM CHINA.

Two ships arrived at New York on Sunday from Canton, one left the 24th of Nov. the other the 26th.

Letters had been received at Canton stating that Lin, the High Commissioner, was about to put a stop to the conveyance of British property to Canton under the flags of other nations, as had been hitherto done, and urging the utmost despatch in loading the vessel taken up for freight to Whampoa, as it was feared an order would soon be passed shutting them out of the Bogue. It is stated to have been the general opinion among the foreign residents, that an entire stoppage of the foreign trade would take place ere long.

The vessel reported by a former arrival to have been wrecked on the shores of Hainan, was not an American but a British vessel. The British Superintendant Elliot had sent the schr. Psyche to the relief of the passengers and crew.

The President has ordered 5 companies of the 1st regiment of Artillery, now in the State of New-York, to proceed to Houlton. The force now at that station consists of the other three companies of the regiment named.

Melancholy Shipwreck.—A gentleman from Cohasset informs us that yesterday morning, before daylight, a brig went ashore on Cohasset Rocks, and went to pieces immediately. Her upper works drifted ashore, and the Captain and three of the crew were saved. Four of the crew were drowned. Scituate light was mistaken for Boston light, and the brig was so far in before the mistake was discovered, that she could not work off against the heavy sea from the N. E. and a head wind. We are unable to learn the name of the vessel or the Captain—but it is reported that she belonged to Portland, and was from Matanzas, bound to Boston, leaded with molasses.—Merc. Journal.

The case of James Wood.—About half past 9 o'clock last evening, the evidence in this case was concluded. Attorney General Johnson then stated to the Court that he was willing to submit the case under the charge of the Judge. Accordingly Judge King commenced his charge, which, although not lengthy, still comprised an accurate and plain definition of the law so far as insanity was involved in the case. After having concluded, the jury retired, having first requested the Court to wait for them until 10 o'clock. During their absence excitement was on tiptoe, and the heretofore noisy crowd adhered to the strictest silence. In from eight to ten minutes the jury came into Court, and returned a verdict of "NOT GUILTY, *on the ground of insanity.*"

Wood, after the adjournment of the Court, was reconducted to prison. His wife and eldest son Frederick, who was examined late last evening, attended the unfortunate man ever since his trial has commenced. There was no change in his countennance when the verdict was announced, and he sat as coldly and stoical upon his chair as if he was dead to the world. —Phila. Ledger.

It will be recollected that Wood is the person who was arrested last fall for shooting his own daughter, who had married against his wishes and without his consent.

Character. In society character is the first, second, and ultimate quality. Never is a man undone who has not lost his character; but when that is lost, for all moral and useful purposes he is ruined. Envy and calumny will follow a man's success like his shadow, but if he is true to himself they will be powerless. Virtues may be misrepresented, but they are virtues still. In vain will an industrious man be called an idler—a sensible man a fool—a prudent man a spendthrift—an honest man a knave. A good character is inherent. Its possessor may ruin it—no one else can.

A bushel of grain.—The last legislature of Indiana passed a law prescribing an uniform mode of ascertaining by weight qualities of the different kinds of grain, that shall pass for a standard bushel in that state as follows:—wheat 60 pounds, avoirdupois, rye 56, corn 56, barley 48, oats 33.

Married,

In Augusta, Mr. John Shaw to Miss Louisa Safford; Mr. Wm. Gay to Miss Catharine Williams.

In Albion, Mr. Jonathan H. Fuller of Freedom, to Miss Mary A. Baker.

In Waterville, Mr. Simeon H. Lowell to Miss Julia Canida.

In Farmington, Mr. Peter Corbett to Miss Nancy Adams.

In Gardiner, Mr. David Hinkley to Miss Mary Sargent.

In Topsham, Mr. Annanium J. Dyer to Miss Lydia S. Smith, of Lisbon.

In Sangerville, Mr. Albert Gray to Miss Mary D. Magoon.

In Belfast, Mr. John H. Clifford to Miss Helen M. Smith.

Died,

In Augusta, James Child, Esq. aged 78, one of the oldest residents; Aurelia M. wife of L. M. Leland, aged 23, formerly of Templeton, Mass.; Mr. Rowland Smith, aged 79.

In Sidney, Mrs. Betsey Russell, formerly of Mass., aged 69.

In Philadelphia, Dr. Joseph Parish, an eminent physician.

In Charlestown, Mass. Naomi, daughter of Henry Chick, of Litchfield, aged 11.

In Byron, 10th ult. of consumption, Abigail, wife of Libbeus L. Stockbridge, aged 27. Within a few hours after the death of Mrs. S. her infant child died, and was buried in the same grave.

In Islesboro', very suddenly, Amos Williams, aged 82, one of the first settlers of Islesboro'.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday March 23,1840.

(From the New England Farmer.)

At market 250 Beef Cattle, 35 pairs Working Oxen, 47 Cows and Calves, 230 Sheep, 950 Swine.

PRICES—*Beef Cattle*—Sales were little quicker than last week without much advance. We quote a few extra at $7. First quality 6 75. Second 6 25 a 6 50. Third 5 50 a 6.

Working Oxen—A large number were sold, we noticed the following—$72 50, 80, 81, 90, 100, two at 112, 115 and 120.

Cows and Calves—$25, 30, 37, 42.

Sheep—We did not learn the prices.

Swine—Lots were sold to peddle at 4 3-4 a 5c for Sows and 5 3-4 a 6 for Barrows; large selected Barrows 5 1-2 and 6c—a lot to close, half Barrows 5 1-8. At retail 6 for Sows and 7 for Barrows.

THE WEATHER.

Range of the Thermometer and Barometer at the office of the Maine Farmer.

1840.

Mar.	Thermom.			Barometer.			Weather.		Wind.	
27,	7	47	46	29,50	29,55	29,60	F.	C.	C.	N. SW.
28,	37	44	39	29,70	28,75	29.75	R.	C.	C.	N NNE.
29,	38	42	41	29,60	29,45	29.45	C.	R	C.	NE.
30,	36	40	48	29,45	29,45	29,30	C.	C	R.	NE. S.
31,	45	48	40	28,95	29,10	29,30	C	C.	F	S. W.
A,	30	48	39	29,50	29,60	29,60	F.	F.	F.	SSW.
2,	30	38	35	29,45	29,55	29,55	F.	F	F.	N W.

F. for Fair weather; C. cloudy; S. snow; R. rain. The place of these letters indicate the character of the weather at each time of observation—viz. at sunrise, at noon, and at sunset. * Below zero.

The direction of the wind is noted at sunrise and sunset.

Prices Current,

At WINTHROP *and* PORTLAND:—*Corrected for the Maine Farmer.*

	Winthrop.*		Portland.	
BACON,	7	to 10		
BEANS,	1,00	1,50	1,62	1,87
BUTTER,	12 1-2	14	14	16
CHEESE,	6	9		9
EGGS, doz.	10			
FLOUR, bbl.	none		7,75	8,00
CORN, bushel	84	1,00	75	78
WHEAT, "	1,25	1,75		
RYE, "	1,00		none	
BARLEY, "	58	75		
OATS, "	35	42	40	
HAY, ton	6,00	7,00	10,00	11,00
POTATOES, bush.	25	34		
CLOVER SEED, lb.	10	12	11	11 1-2
H. GRASS, bush.	1,50	2,00	2,00	
RED TOP, "	1,00	1,50		

* The prices of Produce in Hallowell, Augusta and Gardiner will vary but little from the prices of this town.

LIST OF LETTERS remaining in the Post Office at Winthrop, April 1, 1840.

Austin Alden	Nelson David
Blake James W.	Pearl Cyril
Briggs Isaac C.	Palmer Benjamin
Belcher Alex. Esq.	Packard Ebenezer
Dudley Puinal	Perkins L.
Eastee Aaron (2)	Prescott Benj. R. (2)
Evers Lousa	Richardson Thomas
Fairbanks Alcander	Stanley Morrill
Fairbanks Levi Jr.	Seavey Marcian
Fairbanks Columbus	Sampson Emily A.
Gaslin Thomas	Tyler Martha
Griffith Wm. A.	Trufant Joshua Jr.
Grafton John	Tuffts Nath'l E.
Glidden J. & J.	Tryon Sarah
Lancaster Geo. W.	Vance Charety
Morgan Hannah	Warren D.
Marshall Moses	White Joel Jr.
Marr William	Whiting Elias

13 DAVID STANLEY, P. M.

Vegetable Syrup.

FOR FEMALES, en enciente.

THE most safe and effectual remedy for lessening the pains and sufferings attendent on paturient WOMEN, that has ever been discovered.

Directions for using it, &c., are briefly stated in a small pamphlet that accompanies each bottle; in which are certificates from Physicians, who have prescribed it, and other Gentlemen whose Wives have used it.

Prepared by S PAGE, Druggist, Hallowell, Me. to whom orders may be directed.

It is also for sale by the dozen or single bottle by W. C. Stimson & Reed, No. 114 State street, *Boston*; Noyes & Robbins, *Winthrop*; J. E. Ladd, *Augusta*; Charles Tarbell, *Gardiner*; I. Alden, *Waterville*; Nath'l Weld, *Bath*; G. Williston, *Brunswick*; A. Carter & Chs. E. Beckett, *Portland*; Geo. W. Holden, *Bangor*; W. O. Poor, *Belfast*; Doct. J. A. Berry, *Saco*; T. Fogg & Co. *Thomaston*; R. S. Blasdell, *East Thomaston*; Edmund Dana, *Wiscasset*; C. Church, Jr. *Phillips*; H. B. Lovejoy, *Fayette*; John Sides, *Waldoboro'*; S. W. Bates, *Norridgewock*.

March 7, 1840. eoptf.9

Lost or stolen,

At or near Winthrop Village, about the middle of February a drab over-coat with a fur collar and plain pearl buttons, lined with green flannel. Whoever will return said coat or give information so that the subscriber can find it, shall be suitably rewarded.

EPAPHRAS K. BLAKE.

Monmouth, March 16, 1840. 3w11

A fine Animal For sale.

A FULL Blooded Berkshire Boar. This animal was selected by me in Liverpool, England, in June, 1838, and brought to this country under my personal care, and since that time has been kept on my farm, in Wales, for the use of Sows. As I have a full blooded Sow imported at the same time and his stock extensively spread in this vicinity, I shall dispose of him for a reasonable price. The stock of this Boar is universally approved of where it is known. JOHN LOMBARD.

Wales, March 21, 1840.

Machine Shop and Iron Foundry.

HOLMES & ROBBINS would inform the public that they continue to carry on the MACHINE MAKING BUSINESS as usual, at the Village in *GARDINER*, where they will be in readiness at all times to accommodate those who may favor them with their custom. They have an *IRON FOUNDRY* connected with the Machine Shop, where persons can have almost every kind of Casting made at short notice. Persons wishing for Mill work or Castings for Mills, will find it particularly to their advantage to call, as the assortment of Patterns for that kind of work is very extensive and as good as can be found in any place whatever.

Castings of various kinds kept constantly on hand—such as Cart and Wagon Hubs of all sizes, Fire-Frames, Oven, Ash and Boiler Mouths, Cart and Wagon Boxes, Gears of different kinds and sizes, &c. &c.

All orders for Machinery or Castings executed on the most reasonable terms, without delay.

Repairing done as usual.

Gardiner, March 21, 1840. 1y12

Seed Corn.

THE Subscriber having a kind of Seed Corn which he fully believes it would be much to the interest of farmers to have a portion of to plant the ensuing spring, would give notice that he shall deposit some of it at the Office of the Maine Farmer in Winthrop, at Hedge & Co.'s store in Augusta, at Stanford & Co.'s, Gardiner, and at his house, where those who wish may be supplied.

E. FOLSOM.

THE following Blanks are kept constantly for sale at this office, viz: Mortgage, Warrantee and Quit claim Deeds—Writs—Executions—Confession Executions—Confessions—Copy of Judgment—Assessors' Commitments of Highway Taxes—Town Orders, and al. other kinds of Blanks will be printed at short notice.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Original.

ANOTHER CHAPTER ON SLANDER.

The Slanderer who knows that he gives others occasion to speak ill of him, thinks to justify himself by speaking ill of others. 'Tis in vain for a slanderer to flatter himself with the hope of such a justification—he must not expect to be justified by any one of those who hear him.

They will think that the man ill spoken of is guilty, but they will never believe that he who speaks ill of him is innocent. A slanderer is more to be abhorred than any being that has the features and possesses the faculties of human nature. He may be a man of science, (profoundly so) still he is a bad man, and ought to be held in detestation by every well wisher of society and humanity. I care not whether he be a white man or a red man, a foreigner or an American---he is a bad man, the father of bad deeds. He is worse than he who sits at the gambling table or in the robber's den, or worse than he who is on board of the piratical vessel---he is a curse to himself and an enemy to human nature and character. His mouth is full of bitterness, and with his tongue he uses deceit. By him the highest earthly nature receives a wound deep and lasting in proportion to his capacity to do evil. Yes, it may even wither and die under the baneful influence of that public opinion which he has been guilty of poisoning and corrupting. He sends blight and cheerless despondency upon the pathway of human life, mildews the rose of hope, and leaves the thorn of disappointment in the bosom of him whom he has been guilty of slandering. Such a being violates all moral laws and principles and subjects himself to all moral penalties, and should be considered an outcast and an outlaw, so long as he continues to prey upon that society which he is bound to protect. I say then that such a being should be held in detestation and abhorrence until we see him repent, or in other words until we see him sinking under the sins of wrongs done, of injuries inflicted, confidence betrayed, vows violated, and we see the opposite virtues practiced, namely, gentleness, meekness, friendliness, candor, condescension, forbearance and charity, tenderness of heart, quick sensibility to favors, and especially to violated and depressed virtues. We should all shun the path of the slanderer. O, my God! how many hearts have been wounded, how many tears have fallen, how much misery has been inflicted in consequence of slander. I wonder not that the world is as bad as it is. I only wonder that it is not worse than we now find it. It has been aptly said that he who governs his tongue does more than he who commands armies. And I would say to all, plant not but eradicate the thorn which grows in your path. Cultivate the kind and gentle affections of the heart. Above all let not the feelings of revenge find harbor in your breast, and "and never let the sun go down upon your anger."

COSMOPOLITE.

Winthrop.

A GOOD HIT. The following from the Iowa Sun is deserving the attention of every one of our readers; the concluding item is quite important, and rounds the period well:—

"*Internal Improvements.*"—The system we plead for, though attended with much toil and expense will not require a state tax of a single cent, nor much if any legislation. It is pre-eminently a "democratic" system; it is to be begun by the people, and will be for the exclusive benefit of the people.

It is only for every farmer to mend up his fences, till his ground well, have it well prepared for planting, have the crops in seasonably, tend them well keep down the weeds see that his horses and cattle are fed and treated so as to make them thrive, keep his implements in order and in their place; for every father to rule his family well, govern his children, form their minds and manners by good instruction, train them up in the habits of industry, honesty, and sobriety, provide them with comfortable clothing, send them to school, pay for their tuition and have a care to the company they keep; for every husband to treat his wife as a bosom companion—for every woman to love her husband, and to prove a help meet for him, to keep from gossiping, to spin more stocking than street yarn, to keep the house tidy, and the family clothing clean and well mended; —for every damsel to keep all grease spots from her clothes, darn the heels of her stockings, remove all beau catchers from her head, and novels from her library, to do much with needles, and store her head with useful ideas; for every young man to go decent, but to buy no better clothes than he can honestly pay for, work hard, behave courteously to others, especially to old men, to guard against self-importance and insolence, if much in company with ladies, to black his shoes, trim his hair, throw away his segar and quid, attend preaching regularly, and hold his tongue if he cannot talk sensibly, and to get married when he is twenty-five, if he can find any one to have him; for magistrates to execute the laws; for tavern-keepers to keep better food than brandy; for towns to have clean streets and good sidewalks, to remove every nuisance, and every thing injurious to health; favor good morals; for every district to support good schools. In fine, for it is impossible to enumerate all the objects embraced in our scheme, for every body to cease to do evil and learn to do well, attend church on the Sabbath, mind his own business, and take a newspaper.

Origin of the word "Farm." In the Saxon times the estate which the Lords of Manors granted to the freemen were at the first but for years, with a tender of a rent, which in those days were of corn or victuals, and thence the leases so made were called formes or farms, which word signifieth victuals; but times ensuing turned the victuals into money, and terms of years to terms of life and inheritance, retaining the rents and those called quit-rents, or the rents of these persons that were acquitted or free.

THE HERMIT.—*A Fable.* A pious hermit, who lived in the solitude of the forest, far from the noise of man, was once wandering thro' the woods in pursuit of a few wild fruits and berries to make up his frugal meal. He heard a moaning in the grass, and looking down saw a fox, both of whose fore legs were broken, writhing like a snake on the ground, and apparently starving. The good hermit was about to seek some food for the helpless creature, when an eagle appeared, soaring high over head, and suddenly let a fowl fall from his talons directly at the feet of the fox. The starved animal was greedily on the precious prize, and soon made a hearty meal on it.---'Ah,' exclaimed the pious enthusiast, 'this is the finger of God. Why did I distrust his providential care, and wander over hill and dale to seek for my daily food? He who brought food to the mouth of this helpless animal, will surely never forget his servant. Hneceforth,' said he, 'I will take no more thought for my body's sustenance, and trust to His goodness, and devote all my time to meditation.' True to his resolution, he returned to his cell, and neither plucked the fruits that hung on the tree around him, nor went down to the brook to quench his thirst. Three whole days he lived thus, and wasting away to a shadow, in the vain hope of a direct interference from heaven. On the evening of the third day, just as he sunk into a slumber, thunder rolled through the cave, he saw a form of angelic beauty, and heard a sweet but solemn voice that spoke thus: 'Mortal, how feeble is thy understanding! could'st thou thus misinterpret the lesson contained in the eagle's conduct? Thou art not lame and helpless as was the fox, but art strong, and active like the eagle that gave him food. Him thou wert to imitate, in going about and doing good to others; for know that idleness, even if accompanied by constant prayer, is odious in the sight of the Almighty.'

Depth of the Ocean. The depth of the Ocean is a point which alike has puzzled philosophers and practical men, and is, after all, left in the wide field of conjecture. The most probable guide is analogy; and the wisest men, judging by this criterion, have presumed that the depth of the sea may be measured by the height of the mountains, the highest in which are between 20,000 and 30,000 feet. The greatest depth that has been tried to be measured, is, that found in the Northern Ocean, by Lord Mulgrave.---He heaved out a very heavy sounding lead, and gave out along with it, cable rope to the length of 4680 feet, without finding bottom.

Iron Foundry,

Winthrop Street, HALLOWELL.

Mill-Cranks, Rims, Gudgeons, Spindles, and

CASTINGS of every description and Weight are now made at the above works, by experienced workmen.

On hand

Fire Frames, Cook Stoves, Cast Wagon Hubs, Ploughs & Plough Castings, Cultivator Teeth, Sled and Sleigh Shoes, Patent Oven and Ash mouths, Cast Wagon and Pipe Boxes, Potash Kettles, Caldrons, Fire-Dogs.

Turning in metals, and shafts and spindles can be executed at short notice.

Orders addressed to the subscriber, will receive immediate attention 12 J. P. FLAGG.

Orders for Premiums,

OF the Ken. Co. Ag. Society, are left with the Secretary Wm. Noyes, at the office of Me. Farmer,

Pigs for Sale.

I HAVE on hand 20 pigs from J. W. HAINS' Berkshire boar. One litter 3 days old; the other, and a litter after my boar, 3 weeks old. I also expect pigs soon from the Tuscarora, and in June from Hains' Berkshire Boar. JOHN KEZER, Jr.

Winthrop, March 12th, 1840. 10

Morus Multicaulis or Chinese Mulberry.

FOR Sale by the subscribers a few thousand of the genuine Morus Multicaulis or Chinese Mulberry trees, from one to three years old. Also slips of the same, having been propagated for 4 years past in this County. They are believed to be much more hardy than those procured from the South. A. & J. POPE.

Hallowell Cross Roads, 3d mo. 10th, 1840. 3w10

The Celebrated Ploughs,

MANUFACTURED by RUGGLES, NOURSE & MASON, of *Worcester, Mass.*, and acknowledged to be the best and most perfect Ploughs now in use in respect to their peculiar form, materials, workmanship, and cheapness, ARE FOR SALE at their FACTORY, and by Messrs. ELLIS & BOSSON, No. 45, North-Market St., *Boston*; and in MAINE, at the MAINE FARMER OFFICE, *Winthrop*; and by Messrs. N. Winslow & Co., *Portland*; J. Stanford & Co., *Gardiner*; R. G. Lincoln, *Hallowell*; John Means, Augusta; Samuel Davis, Mt. Vernon; B. W. Varnum, Wayne; J. Smith, jr., Readfield; Otis Hayford and Phineas Howe, Canton; Davis & Harlow, Strong; Ingals & Emerson, Mercer; Seward Dill, Phillips; Alfred Marshall, China; H. B Horn, Vassalboro'; Strickland & Winslow, Bangor; J. C. Merrill & Co., North Lincoln; D. D. Vaughan, Levant; B. P. Gilman & Co., Sebec; John Howe, Abbot; Arey & Nourse, Hampden; Wm. Holmes, Frankfort; B. Hazeltine, Belfast; E. H. Dillingham, Camden; Charles Holmes and Oliver Robbins, Thomaston; Thos. Hodgman, Warren: Eben. Cobb, Union; Austin and Cottor, New Castle; Jacob Robinson. Bath, Holmes & Paine, Jay; H. W. Fairbanks, Farmington; B.M.Hardy, Wilton; Hodsdon and Spooner, New Portland: E. H. Neal, Skowhegan; James Bates, Norridgewock; C. Jewett, Athens; Smith and Stewart, Anson; Bartlett and Dexter, Harmony; M. Stevens, Foxcroft: P P. Pearson, Corinth: Jos. Farwell, Unity: Simeon Barker, Limerick; M. Fisher, Newport, Me., and at many other places.

P. S. To give assurance to purchasers that they can surely, easily and at all times procure points and other parts of castings for repairs, notice is here given that a full assortment of castings for the above purposes are constantly kept for sale by the Manufacturers and by those persons keeping the Ploughs for sale in Boston, Portland, Augusta, Bangor and Thomaston, and that all other dealers in the articles are supplied from the Manufactory with castings when ordered.

Many testimonials from committees and practical men could be inserted relative to the superiority of form, material, workmanship and cheapness of their Ploughs, but they are becoming too generally known to render them necessary.

March, 1840. 6w11

The Maine Farmer,

And Journal of the Useful Arts,

IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY AT WINTHROP

By NOYES & ROBBINS;

E. HOLMES, EDITOR.

Price $2,00 a year. $2,50 will be charged if payment is delayed beyond the year. A deduction of 25 cents will be made to those who pay CASH in advance—and a proportionable deduction to those who pay before the publication of the 26th number, at which time payment is considered due.

Any kind of produce, not liable to be injured by frost, delivered to an Agent in any town in the State, will be recieved in payment, if delivered within the year.

☞ Any person who will obtain six responsible subscribers, and act as Agent, shall recieve a copy for his services.

No paper will be discontinued until all arrearages are paid, except at the option of the publishers; and when payment is made to an Agent, two numbers more than have been received, should be paid for.

☞ A few short advertisements will be inserted at the following rates. All less than a square $1,00 for three insertions. $1,25 per square, for three insertions. Continued three weeks at one half these rates.

All letters on business must be free of postage.

When Agents make remittances it is very important to us that they distinctly state to whom the money is to be credited, and at what Post Office each paper paid for is sent, as we cannot otherwise well find the name on our books.